

What is claimed is:

1. A method for automatically pausing a video program in response to an occurrence of an event, comprising:

receiving a video program;

outputting the video program for presentation on a display device;

detecting occurrence of an audio communications event during the video program presentation;

pausing the video program in response to the detection of the occurrence of the audio communications event;

converting an audio portion of the audio communications event to corresponding text for display; and

outputting a signal for displaying an indication of the occurrence of the audio communications event.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the detecting step includes detecting an incoming phone call, an audio e-mail, a web page with an associated audio file, or a message with an associated audio file.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the outputting the signal step includes outputting the signal for displaying a telephone number associated with the incoming telephone call.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the outputting the signal step includes outputting the signal for displaying a text message associated with the telephone number.

5. The method of claim 3 wherein the outputting the signal step includes outputting the signal for displaying a graphic associated with the telephone number.

1        6.        The method of claim 2, further including:

2                receiving a voice mail message related to the telephone call;

3                converting the voice mail message to corresponding text; and

4                storing the text of the voice mail message.

5        7.        The method of claim 6, further including storing the received voice mail message in  
6                audio form.

7        8.        The method of claim 6, further including presenting the text of the voice mail message.

8        9.        The method of claim 7, further including presenting the text and the audio form of the  
9                voice mail message.

10       10.       The method of claim 1, further including displaying the corresponding text in a window  
11                overlayed on the paused video program.

12       11.       The method of claim 2, further including initiating a call back of the telephone call.

13       12.       The method of claim 1, further including:

14                receiving a play signal to restart the video program; and

15                transmitting, in response to the play signal, the video program for presentation on the  
16                display device starting at an approximate location where the video program was paused.

17       13.       The method of claim 12, further including:

18                receiving a fast forward signal to increase a rate of transmission of the video program;

19                and

transmitting, in response to the fast forward signal, video program at an increased rate  
for presentation of an increased rate of display of the video program on the display device.

14. The method of claim 12, further including:  
receiving a rewind signal to reverse a rate of transmission of the video program; and  
transmitting, in response to the rewind signal, the video program at a reversed rate for  
presentation of a reversed rate of display of the video program on the display device.

15. The method of claim 12, further including:  
receiving a slow motion signal to decrease a rate of transmission of the video program;  
and  
transmitting, in response to the slow motion signal, the video program at an decreased  
rate for presentation of a decreased rate of display of the video program on the display device.

16. The method of claim 1, further including:  
receiving a frame forward signal to display a next frame of the video program; and  
transmitting, in response to the frame forward signal, a next frame of the video program  
for presentation of the next frame on the display device.

17. The method of claim 1, further including:  
receiving a frame back signal to display a previous frame of the video program; and  
transmitting, in response to the frame back signal, a previous frame of the video  
program for presentation of the previous frame on the display device.

18. The method of claim 12, further including:  
receiving a jump signal to display the video program from a current point of  
transmission; and

1 transmitting, in response to the jump signal, the video program for presentation of the  
2 video program from the current point of transmission on the display device.

3 19. The method of claim 2, further including receiving information to associate with a  
4 particular phone number.

5 20. The method of claim 19 wherein the receiving information step includes receiving textual  
6 information or graphical information.

7 21. The method of claim 19 wherein:  
8 the detecting step includes detecting occurrence of an incoming telephone call  
9 associated with the particular phone number; and  
10 the outputting the signal step includes outputting the signal for displaying the information  
11 associated with the particular phone number.

12 22. A method for automatically pausing a video program in response to an occurrence of  
13 an event, comprising:  
14 receiving a video program;  
15 outputting the video program for presentation on a display device;  
16 detecting occurrence of an audio communications event during the video program  
17 presentation;  
18 displaying an indication of the audio communications event;  
19 detecting a triggering event related to the audio communications event;  
20 pausing the video program in response to the detection of the triggering event; and  
21 converting an audio portion of the audio communications event to corresponding text  
22 for display.

1        23.     The method of claim 22 wherein the detecting step includes detecting an incoming  
2        phone call, an audio e-mail, a web page with an associated audio file, or a message with an  
3        associated audio file.

4        24.     The method of claim 22 wherein the displaying step includes displaying an icon.

5        25.     The method of claim 22 wherein the displaying step includes displaying an overlay menu  
6        or a hidden menu.

7        26.     The method of claim 23 wherein the detecting the triggering event step includes  
8        detecting a phone off-hook condition.

9        27.     A method for audio-to-text conversion of real-time telephone calls during viewing of  
10       a video program, comprising:

11           receiving a video program;  
12           outputting the video program for presentation on a display device;  
13           detecting occurrence of an incoming telephone call;  
14           detecting an off-hook condition indicating answering of the telephone call;  
15           converting an audio portion of the telephone call to corresponding text; and  
16           displaying the corresponding text with the video program.

17       28.     The method of claim 27 wherein the displaying step includes displaying the  
18       corresponding text in a window overlaid on the video program.

19       29.     An apparatus for automatically pausing a video program in response to an occurrence  
20       of an event, comprising:

1 a module for receiving a video program and outputting the video program for  
2 presentation on a display device;

3 a detection module for detecting occurrence of an audio communications event during  
4 the video program presentation;

5 a pause module for pausing the video program in response to the detection of the  
6 occurrence of the audio communications event;

7 a conversion module for converting an audio portion of the audio communications event  
8 to corresponding text for display; and

9 an output module for outputting a signal for displaying an indication of the occurrence  
10 of the audio communications event.

11 30. The apparatus of claim 29 wherein the detection module includes a module for  
12 detecting an incoming phone call, an audio e-mail, a web page with an associated audio file,  
13 or a message with an associated audio file.

14 31. The apparatus of claim 30 wherein the output module includes a module for outputting  
15 the signal for displaying a telephone number associated with the incoming telephone call.

16 32. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the output module includes a module for outputting  
17 the signal for displaying a text message associated with the telephone number.

18 33. The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the output module includes a module for outputting  
19 the signal for displaying a graphic associated with the telephone number.

20 34. The apparatus of claim 30, further including:

21 a module for receiving a voice mail message related to the telephone call;

22 a module for converting the voice mail message to corresponding text; and

1 a module for storing the text of the voice mail message.

2 35. The apparatus of claim 34, further including a module storing the received voice mail  
3 message in audio form.

4 36. The apparatus of claim 34, further including a module for presenting the text of the  
5 voice mail message.

6 37. The apparatus of claim 35, further including a module for presenting the text and the  
7 audio form of the voice mail message.

8 38. The apparatus of claim 29, further including a module for displaying the corresponding  
9 text in a window overlaid on the paused video program.

10 39. The apparatus of claim 30, further including a module for initiating a call back of the  
11 telephone call.

12 40. The apparatus of claim 29, further including:  
13 a module for receiving a play signal to restart the video program; and  
14 a module for transmitting, in response to the play signal, the video program for  
15 presentation on the display device starting at an approximate location where the video program  
16 was paused.

17 41. The apparatus of claim 40, further including:  
18 a module for receiving a fast forward signal to increase a rate of transmission of the  
19 video program; and

1 a module for transmitting, in response to the fast forward signal, video program at an  
2 increased rate for presentation of an increased rate of display of the video program on the  
3 display device.

4 42. The apparatus of claim 40, further including:

5 a module for receiving a rewind signal to reverse a rate of transmission of the video  
6 program; and

7 a module for transmitting, in response to the rewind signal, the video program at a  
8 reversed rate for presentation of a reversed rate of display of the video program on the display  
9 device.

10 43. The apparatus of claim 40, further including:

11 a module for receiving a slow motion signal to decrease a rate of transmission of the  
12 video program; and

13 a module for transmitting, in response to the slow motion signal, the video program at  
14 an decreased rate for presentation of a decreased rate of display of the video program on the  
15 display device.

16 44. The apparatus of claim 29, further including:

17 a module for receiving a frame forward signal to display a next frame of the video  
18 program; and

19 a module for transmitting, in response to the frame forward signal, a next frame of the  
20 video program for presentation of the next frame on the display device.

21 45. The apparatus of claim 29, further including:

22 a module for receiving a frame back signal to display a previous frame of the video  
23 program; and



1 a module for transmitting, in response to the frame back signal, a previous frame of the  
2 video program for presentation of the previous frame on the display device.

3 46. The apparatus of claim 40, further including:

4 a module for receiving a jump signal to display the video program from a current point  
5 of transmission; and

6 a module for transmitting, in response to the jump signal, the video program for  
7 presentation of the video program from the current point of transmission on the display device.

8 47. The apparatus of claim 30, further including a module for receiving information to  
9 associate with a particular phone number.

10 48. The apparatus of claim 47 wherein the module for receiving information includes a  
11 module for receiving textual information or graphical information.

12 49. The apparatus of claim 47 wherein:

13 the detection module includes a module for detecting occurrence of an incoming  
14 telephone call associated with the particular phone number; and

15 the output module includes a module for outputting the signal for displaying the  
16 information associated with the particular phone number.

17 50. An apparatus for automatically pausing a video program in response to an occurrence  
18 of an event, comprising:

19 a module for receiving a video program and outputting the video program for  
20 presentation on a display device;

21 an audio communications event module for detecting occurrence of an audio  
22 communications event during the video program presentation;

1 a display module for displaying an indication of the audio communications event;  
2 a triggering event module for detecting a triggering event related to the audio  
3 communications event;  
4 a pause module for pausing the video program in response to the detection of the  
5 triggering event; and  
6 a conversion module for converting an audio portion of the audio communications event  
7 to corresponding text for display.

8 51. The apparatus of claim 50 wherein the audio communications event module includes  
9 a module for detecting an incoming phone call, an audio e-mail, a web page with an associated  
10 audio file, or a message with an associated audio file.

11 52. The apparatus of claim 50 wherein the display module includes a module for displaying  
12 an icon.

13 53. The apparatus of claim 50 wherein the display module includes a module for displaying  
14 an overlay menu or a hidden menu.

15 54. The apparatus of claim 51 wherein the triggering event module includes a module for  
16 detecting a phone off-hook condition.

17 55. An apparatus for voice-to-text conversion of real-time telephone calls during viewing  
18 of a video program, comprising:

19 a module for receiving a video program and outputting the video program for  
20 presentation on a display device;

21 a detection module for detecting occurrence of an incoming telephone call;

1 an off-hook module for detecting an off-hook condition indicating answering of the  
2 telephone call;

3 a conversion module for converting an audio portion of the telephone call to  
4 corresponding text; and

5 a display module for displaying the corresponding text with the video program.

6 56. The apparatus of claim 55 wherein the display module includes a module for displaying  
7 the corresponding text in a window overlaid on the video program.

8 57. A computer program product, comprising:

9 a computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a computer system  
10 to perform a method for automatically pausing a video program in response to an occurrence  
11 of an event, the method including:

12 receiving a video program;

13 outputting the video program for presentation on a display device;

14 detecting occurrence of an audio communications event during the video program  
15 presentation;

16 pausing the video program in response to the detection of the occurrence of the audio  
17 communications event;

18 converting an audio portion of the audio communications event to corresponding text  
19 for display; and

20 outputting a signal for displaying an indication of the occurrence of the audio  
21 communications event.

22 58. The computer program product of claim 57 wherein the detecting step includes  
23 detecting an incoming phone call, an audio e-mail, a web page with an associated audio file,  
24 or a message with an associated audio file.

1        59.     The computer program product of claim 58 wherein the outputting the signal step  
2 includes outputting the signal for displaying a telephone number associated with the incoming  
3 telephone call.

4        60.     The computer program product of claim 59 wherein the outputting the signal step  
5 includes outputting the signal for displaying a text message associated with the telephone  
6 number.

7        61.     The computer program product of claim 59 wherein the outputting the signal step  
8 includes outputting the signal for displaying a graphic associated with the telephone number.

9        62.     The computer program product of claim 58, further including:  
10        receiving a voice mail message related to the telephone call;  
11        converting the voice mail message to corresponding text; and  
12        storing the text of the voice mail message.

13       63.     The computer program product of claim 62, further including storing the received voice  
14 mail message in audio form.

15       64.     The computer program product of claim 62, further including presenting the text of the  
16 voice mail message.

17       65.     The computer program product of claim 63, further including presenting the text and  
18 the audio form of the voice mail message.

19       66.     The computer program product of claim 57, further including displaying the  
20 corresponding text in a window overlayed on the paused video program.

1       67.     The computer program product of claim 57, further including initiating a call back of  
2       the telephone call.

3       68.     The computer program product of claim 57, further including:  
4             receiving a play signal to restart the video program; and  
5             transmitting, in response to the play signal, the video program for presentation on the  
6       display device starting at an approximate location where the video program was paused.

7       69.     The computer program product of claim 68, further including:  
8             receiving a fast forward signal to increase a rate of transmission of the video program;  
9       and  
10            transmitting, in response to the fast forward signal, video program at an increased rate  
11       for presentation of an increased rate of display of the video program on the display device.

12       70.     The computer program product of claim 68, further including:  
13            receiving a rewind signal to reverse a rate of transmission of the video program; and  
14            transmitting, in response to the rewind signal, the video program at a reversed rate for  
15       presentation of a reversed rate of display of the video program on the display device.

16       71.     The computer program product of claim 68, further including:  
17            receiving a slow motion signal to decrease a rate of transmission of the video program;  
18       and  
19            transmitting, in response to the slow motion signal, the video program at an decreased  
20       rate for presentation of a decreased rate of display of the video program on the display device.

21       72.     The computer program product of claim 57, further including:  
22            receiving a frame forward signal to display a next frame of the video program; and

1 transmitting, in response to the frame forward signal, a next frame of the video program  
2 for presentation of the next frame on the display device.

3 73. The computer program product of claim 57, further including:  
4 receiving a frame back signal to display a previous frame of the video program; and  
5 transmitting, in response to the frame back signal, a previous frame of the video  
6 program for presentation of the previous frame on the display device.

7 74. The computer program product of claim 68, further including:  
8 receiving a jump signal to display the video program from a current point of  
9 transmission; and  
10 transmitting, in response to the jump signal, the video program for presentation of the  
11 video program from the current point of transmission on the display device.

12 75. The computer program product of claim 58, further including receiving information to  
13 associate with a particular phone number.

14 76. The computer program product of claim 75 wherein the receiving information step  
15 includes receiving textual information or graphical information.

16 77. The computer program product of claim 75 wherein:  
17 the detecting step includes detecting occurrence of an incoming telephone call  
18 associated with the particular phone number; and  
19 the outputting the signal step includes outputting the signal for displaying the information  
20 associated with the particular phone number.

21 78. A computer program product, comprising:

1 a computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a computer system  
2 to perform a method for automatically pausing a video program in response to an occurrence  
3 of an event, the method including:  
4 receiving a video program;  
5 outputting the video program for presentation on a display device;  
6 detecting occurrence of an audio communications event during the video program  
7 presentation;  
8 displaying an indication of the audio communications event;  
9 detecting a triggering event related to the audio communications event;  
10 pausing the video program in response to the detection of the triggering event; and  
11 converting an audio portion of the audio communications event to corresponding text  
12 for display.

13 79. The computer program product of claim 78 wherein the detecting step includes  
14 detecting an incoming phone call, an audio e-mail, a web page with an associated audio file,  
15 or a message with an associated audio file.

16 80. The computer program product of claim 78 wherein the displaying step includes  
17 displaying an icon.

18 81. The computer program product of claim 78 wherein the displaying step includes  
19 displaying an overlay menu or a hidden menu.

20 82. The computer program product of claim 79 wherein the detecting the triggering event  
21 step includes detecting a phone off-hook condition.

22 83. A computer program product, comprising:

1 a computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a computer system  
2 to perform a method for voice-to-text conversion of real-time telephone calls during viewing  
3 of a video program, the method including:

4 receiving a video program;  
5 outputting the video program for presentation on a display device;  
6 detecting occurrence of an incoming telephone call;  
7 detecting an off-hook condition indicating answering of the telephone call;  
8 converting an audio portion of the telephone call to corresponding text; and  
9 displaying the corresponding text with the video program.

10 84. The computer program product of claim 83 wherein the displaying step includes  
11 displaying the corresponding text in a window overlayed on the video program.